



Inside Illinois DNR

October 2018

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IDNR Careers

IDNR offers a wide array of professional careers in the conservation and natural resource arena. Click [here](#) to see what jobs openings are available.

A Message from Director Wayne Rosenthal



The opening of the Illinois Archery Deer Season on October 1 signals the start of the busiest time of the year for Illinois hunters – and it provides us with an opportunity to remind hunters of the importance of making safety their top priority as they take to the field.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources takes hunter safety very seriously. We offer Hunter Education courses, available throughout the year, taught by certified safety instructors who volunteer their time to provide hunters with the best information and demonstrations available on safe, proper hunting practices.

Illinois Conservation Police are in the field during busy hunting seasons, enforcing hunting regulations and working to ensure the safety of hunters.

Illinois' hunting safety record is a good one, but even one hunting incident involving injuries or fatalities is one too many. Last year in Illinois, a total of 19 hunting-related incidents were reported to the IDNR, three of which resulted in fatalities.

Seven of the reported incidents involved injuries resulting from discharge of a hunting device – six of them involving firearms, and the other involving an injury to a hunter while firing a crossbow. These incidents should remind hunters of the importance of proper transport and handling of firearms, and always identifying a target before firing.

Ten of last year's incidents involved tree stands. While hunting from an elevated tree stand has its advantages, far too many preventable incidents happen every year when hunters are installing, climbing into or out of, or sitting in tree stands.

When planning on hunting from a tree stand, hunters should always carefully inspect their stand and follow manufacturers' instructions for installation and use.

Most importantly, hunters should use a Fall Arrest System/Full Body Harness (FAS/FBH) when using a tree stand.

For an excellent review of precautions and safety recommendations for hunting from a tree stand, take a free online course on tree stand safety at <https://www.huntercourse.com/treestandsafety/>.

For more information on hunter safety in Illinois, contact IDNR Safety Education at 1-800-832-2599 or check the website at <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/safety/Pages/HunterSafety.aspx>.

Wayne Rosenthal

DNR in the news

**Football Team &
Osprey**

**Monarch Butterfly
Numbers**

**Trail
Improvements**

**Camp Host: Mr. &
Mrs. Bridges**

Statewide Offices

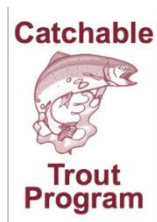
Springfield, IL
217-782-6302

Bartlett, IL
847-608-3100

Benton, IL
618-435-8138

Chicago, IL
312-814-2070

Highlights



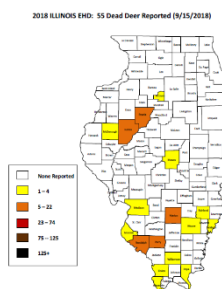
**Fall 2018 Trout
Season Opener
Announced!**

Regular Season:
October 20th

**Catch-and-Release
Fly Fishing Season**
(at select locations):
October 6th

Fall Trout Season Opens October 20

The 2018 Illinois Fall Trout Fishing Season opens on Saturday, October 20 at 59 ponds, lakes, and streams throughout the state. The Fall Catch-and-Release Fly Fishing Season will be available at nine sites beginning on October 6 at nine select locations. Fly fishing anglers can use fly fishing gear to catch and release trout beginning October 6 at the nine sites. No trout may be kept during the fly fishing period, but all anglers can keep trout after the opening of the regular fall trout season on October 20. [For more information click here](#)



IDNR Asks Hunters, Landowners to Report Suspected Cases of EHD in Deer

IDNR has received reports of 55 suspected cases of Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) in white-tailed deer as of September 15, with EHD appearing at low to moderate levels in counties on or near the Illinois River including Fulton, McDonough, Peoria and Putnam. Scattered suspected EHD cases have also been reported in the central and southern Illinois counties of Alexander, Macon, Madison, Marion, Monroe, Perry, Pope, Randolph, Richland, Union, Wabash, Wayne, and Williamson. In all, reports have come from 17 counties. [For more information click here](#)



45th Annual Fort Massac Encampment

Step back in time to the turn of the century and celebrate the heritage of Fort Massac State Park on October 20 and 21 at the annual Fort Massac Encampment - one of the largest events in Illinois. Join the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Fort Massac, the Greater Metropolis Area CVB, and City of Metropolis as we welcome thousands back to the late 1700s. Taste the foods, see the sights of the day, hear the cannons boom and the music play. Experience history come to life at Fort Massac. [For more information click here](#)



Dickson Mounds Museum Spoon River Valley Scenic Drive Weekends

Spoon River Valley Scenic Drive weekend activities are October 6, 7, 13 and 14. Join in the fun for a variety of activities during the Spoon River Scenic Drive at Dickson Mounds Museum. [For more information click here](#)

Check out these amazing time-lapse videos of Illinois' [Great State Parks](#)



2018 Director's Hunt

Register Today

Join the ICF
**November
19-20**

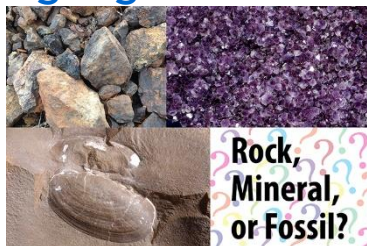
at
Wayne
Fitzgerrell
State
Recreation
Area in
Whittington

Enjoy Pheasant
Hunting

Call
(217) 785-2003

Visit ICF

Highlights



Rock, Mineral, or Fossil? Super Saturday at the Illinois State Museum

Make plans to attend Super Saturday, October 6 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. How can you tell the difference between

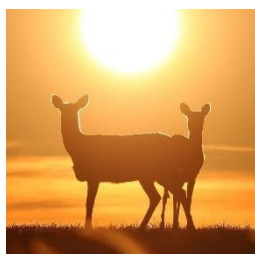
a rock, mineral, or fossil? Come to the Illinois State Museum and find out! Families can make their own fossil, create a watercolor geode, discover fossils, rocks and minerals found in Illinois, and take home their very own rock or mineral. [For more information click here](#)



State and Federal Sites Open for 2018 Youth Waterfowl Hunting Seasons

A number of Illinois state parks, fish and wildlife areas, conservation areas and recreation areas will be open to youth waterfowl hunting during the 2018 North Zone Youth Waterfowl Hunt, Central Zone Youth Waterfowl Hunt, South Central Zone Youth

Waterfowl Hunt and South Zone Youth Waterfowl Hunt. Federal sites that fall under the IDNR waterfowl administrative rule that will be open are also available. [For more information click here](#)



IDNR Prohibiting Archery Harvest of Antlerless Deer October 1-15 in Five East-Central Illinois Counties

Hunters are prohibited from harvesting antlerless deer during the first 15 days of the Illinois Archery Deer Season in five east-central Illinois counties as part of an effort to grow the deer herd in the region. Antlerless deer are defined as deer without antlers or deer having antlers less than three inches long. The regulation being implemented for the 2018-19 archery deer season establishes a Restricted Archery Zone consisting of Champaign, Douglas, Macon, Moultrie and Piatt counties. Hunters in those counties may only take antlered deer from October 1 through October 15. Antlered deer are deer that have at least one antler that is three or more inches in length.

[For more information click here.](#)



Candlelight Tour at Lincoln's New Salem

Visit Lincoln's New Salem State Historic Site October 5, 6 and 7, 2018: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The Candlelight Walk offers the only opportunity to see the village at night. Period clothed interpreters will be inside many of the log homes and shops in the village to talk about life in 19th century Illinois. Gingerbread and cider will be served in the Rutledge Tavern. Visitors should be alert to new traffic and parking plans for the event. [For more information click here](#)



CAHOKIA MOUNDS
STATE HISTORIC SITE

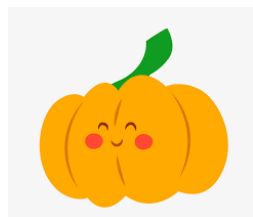
Chickasaw Nation Visits Cahokia Mounds

Join in the fun October 13 and 14 at Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site. The Chickasaw Nation Dance Troupe will demonstrate stickball, stomp dancing, and storytelling with social games and dancing for visitors starting at 10:00 a.m. [For more information click here](#)



Roundstone Buskers Return to Galesburg October 14

The Roundstone Buskers and their modern take on Celtic music return Sunday, October 14 to the Carl Sandburg State Historic Site's Songbag Concert Series in Galesburg. The group, which formed in 2001, takes its name from Roundstone, Ireland, home of the great bodhran maker, Malachy Kearns. The trio's current lineup features Shannan Sullivan, Tom Jones and Bruce Burton. [For more information click here](#)



Torchlight Halloween Hike, Pumpkin Carving Contest, and Wiener Roast at Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site

The Torchlight Halloween Hike and Wiener Roast gives visitors the chance to enjoy the Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site in the dark! We will start at the Visitor Center for a bonfire and wiener roast on October 27. Bring out your best carved pumpkin by 6:00 p.m.; visitors will judge the best carvings and prizes will be awarded. You will also want to hike the paths between our historic farms by torchlight and hear storytelling in the Lincoln Cabin from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. [For more information click here](#)



IDNR Education Department List Server

Join the IDNR Division of Education's list server to receive updates on resources, workshops, grants and other opportunities. To subscribe, send an email to

dnr-education@lists.illinois.gov. You do not need to write any text in the message or the

subject line. Participation is free, and you can unsubscribe at any time.

[For more information click here](#)



Applications Available for Special Firearm Deer Hunt for Persons with Disabilities at Spoon River State Forest on October 13-14

IDNR will host a firearm deer hunt for persons with disabilities on October 13 and 14 at Spoon River State Forest in Knox County. Prospective

hunters may apply for the hunt by submitting an application via email no later than October 6, 2018. [For more information click here](#)



Fall Color Weekend at Starved Rock State Park is October 20 and 21

Join the Starved Rock State Park guides for a hike to overlooks and canyons to view the spectacular colors of fall. Learn about the history and geology of Starved Rock.

Free guided hikes will leave the Visitor Center at 9:30, 10:00, 11:00, and 1:00 each

day. Hikes will last 1-2 hours and cover 1-2 miles each. [For more information click here](#)

2018 Archery

Archery Deer and Turkey Seasons open October 1

October 1 is the opening for Deer and Turkey Archery seasons. It is unlawful to hunt any wild game except during times specified for those game species in reference to official sunrise-sunset times for the location. [For more information click here](#)

[For more information check out our monthly calendar of events!](#)

Visit the IDNR on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!

